



Volunteer Virginia

A newsletter for the service and faith community

Virginia Office on Volunteerism & Community Service | August, 2015

In This Issue

[Big News About the Volunteerism Conference](#)

[Opportunities to Serve](#)

[AmeriCorps in Virginia](#)

[FACT Research & Data Portal Now Live](#)

[Nonprofit Resources](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

Funding & Grant Opportunities

[Farmers Insurance Corporate Contributions Program](#)

-

[Gibson Foundation Grants](#)

-

[Haring Foundation Grants](#)

-

[Everyday Young Hero Award](#)

-

[Beyond Words: Dollar General School Library Relief Fund](#)

-

More [funding and grant opportunities](#).

Information is Good



Tell a friend or colleague about this issue.

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Miss an issue of *Virginia Volunteer*? View the [archives](#).

Contribute

Have a news item or calendar event you want to see on *Virginia Volunteer*? Send comments to info@vaservice.org

Big News About the Volunteerism Conference

Workshop Schedule is Announced

An exciting line-up of training opportunities has just been announced for the [2015 Virginia Volunteerism and Service Conference](#), September 30-October 1, in Roanoke. In keeping with our theme of Volunteers are Everyday Heroes, here's a sampling of what you can look forward to at this year's event:



- **Utilizing Our Greatest American Heroes as Volunteers** will provide participants with outreach strategies for local communities to serve and/or engage military families.
- **Zapping Hunger to Ensure No Kid Hungry** will present an overview of the current state of childhood hunger in Virginia and present the many tools and resources available to fight it.
- **Holistic Cyber Security for Nonprofits: Protecting What is Precious** will provide an increased knowledge of cyber security threats and explain how to improve their protection at the least cost.
- **Smashing Community Barriers by Honoring Diversity** will explain why tolerating diversity is insufficient and examine how community-held beliefs and the human tendency to stereotype can hinder inclusion.
- **The Boomer Generation: An Elite Volunteer Force** will reveal ideas for effective recruitment and retention strategies to successfully tap the substantial talent and experience of Baby Boomer volunteers.

[See the complete line-up of workshops and training opportunities!](#)

Early Bird Registration Ends Soon!

Don't miss Virginia's largest gathering of nonprofit and volunteer leaders! Early bird registration is going on now! But hurry, the discounted registration rate of \$95 will increase to \$115 on August 15. [Register today!](#)



On a Tight Budget? Apply for a Scholarship!

The Virginia Service Foundation is offering scholarships to cover the cost of conference registration. Financial assistance requests will be considered from directors and volunteer coordinators of 501c3 organizations in Virginia and national service members or alumni living in Virginia. For more information and questions, contact virginiasservicefoundation@gmail.com. [Apply today!](#)

Opportunities to Serve

Day to Serve is Your Opportunity to Make an Impact!

Do you want to be a positive force in your community? Wouldn't it be great to be part of something greater than yourself? **Join the thousands of community organizations throughout Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, and Washington, DC, for Day to Serve 2015!** Service projects will take place September 11-October 10, uniting people of all faiths, races, cultures, and backgrounds. How do you get involved? 1) Invite someone new to work with you, 2) Find and meet a need in your community, and 3) Go to daytoserve.org and add your event. For more information, contact Cathy Walker at catherine.walker@dss.virginia.gov.



Plan Now for 9/11 National Day of Service & Remembrance

In 2009, Congress designated September 11th as a National Day of Service and Remembrance under bipartisan federal law, and charged the Corporation for National and Community Service with helping to support this effort across the country. Millions of Americans will serve by feeding the hungry, mentoring a child, checking in on the elderly, collecting supplies for children in need, and supporting and honoring veterans, soldiers, military families, and first responders. Plan today by



visiting Serve.gov and 911day.org for toolkits, FAQ's, and a place to share your stories and register your project nationally.

AmeriCorps in Virginia

My AmeriCorps Story: Nycholle Gater

Nycholle Gater, an AmeriCorps member with the Virginia Veterans Corps, reflects on her service year as it comes to a close. She recalls the inspirational challenges and the moments that will affect her for the rest of her life. "As a (member) I am thankful for the opportunity to be the laborer -- to be a part of the healing and restoration to wholeness for these veterans." [Read her story.](#)



Greenbrier Learning Center Awarded Competitive Grant

Greenbrier Learning Center, an Arlington nonprofit that provides afterschool tutoring and enrichment programs for local at-risk and low-income youth, is the only AmeriCorps program in the Commonwealth of Virginia to be awarded a 2015-16 AmeriCorps service grant by the Corporation for National and Community Service. [More.](#)



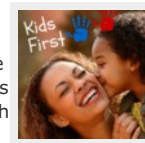
Foster Grandparents 50th Anniversary

August 24, 2015, marks the 50th anniversary of [Senior Corps' Foster Grandparents](#) program. The program provides a way for volunteers age 55 and over to stay active by serving children and youth in their communities. Foster Grandparents serve from 15 to 40 hours per week in locations including schools, hospitals, juvenile correctional institutions, daycare facilities or Head Start centers. Volunteers receive pre-service orientation, training from the organization where you will serve, supplemental accident and liability insurance, and meals while on duty. Volunteers who meet certain income guidelines also receive a small stipend. [More.](#)



FACT Research & Data Portal Now Live

In February of 2015, the Family and Children's Trust Fund (FACT) of Virginia released Violence at Home: 2014 FACT Report and Impact of Exposure to Intimate Partner Violence on Children in the Home, the 2014 Issue Brief. In past years the FACT Report included a detailed data appendix, but with this latest release of the report the data was presented in a series of interactive, online data dashboards. [More.](#)



Nonprofit Resources

Grants, Recognition and Awards

- [We Stand Strong 9/11 Grants](#) are available for the training and organizer of prep events on September 11th National Day of Service & Remembrance. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis through August 7.
- [Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth Y Street Grants](#) will award funding to programs to recruit youth to serve throughout Virginia as activists for issues related to tobacco and childhood obesity. School-based and community-based organizations that work with high school teens are encouraged to apply. Deadline: August 31.
- [Virginia Housing Award](#) nominations are due August 14, recognizing innovative, effective efforts that address Virginia's housing needs.
- The [Chesapeake Bay Trust Environmental Education Grants](#) provide funds for outdoor learning experiences around a watershed issue investigation including field trips, fieldwork, student-led action projects and schoolyard habitat projects as well as building teacher capacity to implement environmental education.
- The [Department of Education's Improved Reentry Education Grants](#) support demonstration projects in prisoner reentry education that develop evidence of reentry education's effectiveness. Deadline: August 12.
- [More Funding and Grant Opportunities](#)

Training and Events

- Register to be a part of the Charlottesville area's Center for

Nonprofit Excellence's new [Management Academy](#) by August 15. The Academy builds knowledge and skills across the areas of program strategy, fund development, personnel management, accounting and financial management, marketing and communications, and board governance.

- [Enhancing the Campus & Community Response to Adult Sexual Assault: A Team Approach](#) (August 31-September 1 at Hampden-Sydney College in Farmville and September 2-3 in Williamsburg) will be presented by the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services detailing how a Sexual Assault Response Team addresses sexual assault, to hold perpetrators accountable, and to support victims.
- [World Humanitarian Day](#) is August 19. Sign up to spread the word, read stories, and watch incredible videos of humanitarian heroes.
- [More Special Events and Training Opportunities](#)

Resources and Data

- The [Administration for Community Living \(ACL\)](#) is soliciting comments, and will be hosting 12 listening sessions, on newly-released draft voluntary guidelines for Adult Protective Services (APS) systems. The deadline to provide input is October 13.
- [Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness](#) is the latest strategy from the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness and serves as a living blueprint, containing the latest knowledge and best practices to prevent and end homelessness.
- Check out [Aging.gov](#) launched by the White House Conference on Aging to provide older Americans, their families, friends, and other caregivers, a one-stop resource for government-wide information on helping older adults live independent and fulfilling lives.
- HUD has updated the [Income Eligibility Calculator](#), an interactive tool that makes determining the income eligibility and assistance amounts for beneficiaries of CPD programs as easy as 1-2-3.
- The [American Disabilities Act's Legacy Project](#) provides tools and information to help honor the milestones and accomplishments of the disability rights movement.
- View the IRS Guidelines for [new state-sponsored ABLE Accounts for People with Disabilities](#). ABLE accounts are designed to enable people with disabilities and their families to save for and pay for disability-related expenses. It also permits a state to establish and maintain a new type of tax-advantaged savings program for a qualified disabled person.
- The U.S. Department of Labor recently issued [Promising Practices in Achieving Universal Access and Equal Opportunity: A Section 188 Disability Reference Guide](#) as an updated resource under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.
- The [Taxpayer Advocate Service](#) is available to help organizations with difficult tax problems and questions.
- The [IRS Armed Forces' Tax Guide](#) is a free booklet packed with valuable information and tips designed to help service members and their families take advantage of all tax benefits allowed by law.
- View the presentation [Resources to Help Houses of Worship for Emergencies](#) from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security as well as [download multiple resources](#).
- FEMA's [Taking Shelter from the Storm: Building a Safe Room for Your Home or Small Business](#) details how to correctly create a safe room to help provide near-absolute protection during extreme weather events such as tornadoes and hurricanes.
- [Confronting the Childcare Eligibility Maze](#) helps states confront burdensome administrative processes that make it difficult for low-income families to get and keep child care benefits, and the cumulative challenges eligible clients face in trying to access other benefits (i.e. SNAP/Medicaid).
- The [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Health Statistics](#) reports that In the period 2011-2013, 44 percent of teen girls and 47 percent of teen boys report having had sex -- down 14 percent for girls and 22 percent for guys over the past 25 years.
- [Periscope for Nonprofits: A Quick Guide & Review](#) provides a helpful introduction to the ways live-streaming can enhance your organization.

Upcoming Events

August

- 14 - [Deadline for Volunteerism Conference Early Bird Registration](#)
- 19 - [World Humanitarian Day](#)
- 19-31 - [10th Anniversary of Hurricane Katrina](#)
- 24 - [50th Anniversary of Foster Grandparents Program](#)

September

[National Preparedness Month](#)

[National Hunger Action Month](#)

21 - [Deadline to Register for VA Volunteerism & Service Conference](#)

11-October 10 - [Day to Serve](#)

11 - [National Day of Service and Remembrance](#)

16-17 - [Amazing Raise](#)

30-October 1 - [2015 Virginia Volunteerism & Service Conference](#)

October

[Domestic Violence Awareness Month](#)

18-24 - [America Safe Schools Week](#)

19-25 - [National Teen Driver Safety Week](#)

24 - [National Food Day](#)

24 - [Make a Difference Day](#)

November

18-20 - [Virginia Governor's Housing Conference](#)



Virginia Volunteerism & Service Conference

September 30-October 1, 2015

Sheraton Roanoke Hotel, Roanoke, VA

Theme: Volunteers Are Everyday Heroes:

Serving Locally & Globally

vavolunteerconference.com

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